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RIGHT GREENHOUSE

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SHOW PREVIEW



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Designing with
ornamental grasses

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Sponsor The Caravan Club is not known for its riches so this is a low-budget garden with the emphasis on the plants rather than hard landscaping. There's a distinct cottage garden feel, with plants – mostly grown by Roger Platt – in soft tones of pinks and whites, blowsy roses like 'Rambling Rector' and 'Cecile Brunner', verbascums and salvias. A selection of 6m high *Betula albosinensis* 'Fascination' from Hillier's provide structure, as do irregular curves of timber posts used to break up the space and act as a veil in conjunction with the plants.

Landscaping is all either hardwood or natural stone. Wooden paths divide the space (beside the grand pavilion on main avenue) on a simple square grid; the space is a square 10m x 10m. "Not easy," says Jo, "to get a feeling of depth." A steel-lined rill cuts across the width of the garden and some elegant chaise longue-style timber reclining benches have provided an engineering challenge to ensure they appear to be floating over the water.

There is even a timber dog kennel – which may have wheels so Fido can move to catch the evening rays of sun! Yes, put your clock back 50 years, everyone, this is nostalgia time.

7 THE ROOFTOP WORKPLACE OF TOMORROW

Patricia Fox MSGD Sponsors RBS in association with Walworth Garden Farm

A Silver Gilt winner in 2009 with an edible walled courtyard garden, Patricia Fox of Aralia Garden Design in Hertfordshire is back with a bigger spot (15m x 20m) along Royal Hospital Way and is using some very innovative eco-friendly materials for her rooftop space, which allows the office to move outdoors with all its high tech accoutrements but with the emphasis still on the environment.

It is a complete rooftop office with an outdoor workstation, a green roof over an outdoor canopy, and a green wall. The wall using the ANS system of plastic trays is filled with a selection of edible plants – mint, lemon balm and camellia sinensis to be plucked for tea made with an instant hot water machine. Work surfaces are made by US company Richlite using 50% recycled material made from paper composite.

The compressed bamboo decking is PLYBOODEX™ by Smith & Fong, with bamboo harvested from sustainable forests in China. Staff can sit in suspended

egg-shaped rattan chairs and connect to their computers under a waterproof canopy and even conferences can be held using screen visuals.

Planting is cool silvers and white, and kept fairly simple with white stemmed birches grown by Deepdale, and the softer planting supplied by Kelways.

8 THE DAILY TELEGRAPH GARDEN

Sarah Price

Back for her third Chelsea and fresh from the triumphs of the Olympic garden, Sarah Price is embarking on her first show garden and confidently thinking outside the box with dramatic use of immense atmospheric cracked lime stone slabs surrounded by wet meadow wildflower planting. "I want it to give the feel of walking across the wilds of Dartmoor, through birch groves and over streams," she says.

The major construction will be the limestone slabs, which she has chosen and which have been cut for her individually from Chicks Grove quarry in Wiltshire. "I spent a lot of time at the quarry to find the right colour. I love the texture, the fossils it contains and the